

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1, 7, 8, 12, 18, 19, 26, 32, 33, 37, 43, 33, 53, and 54 are amended herein.

Claims 51 and 52 are cancelled. All pending claims and their present status are produced below.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for processing a plurality of data records, comprising:

setting transaction boundaries among said plurality of data records thereby dividing the plurality of data records into one or more data sets;

processing via a database transformation each of the one or more data sets thereby producing a multiplicity of results from the one or more ~~transaction~~ data sets; and

completing the processing of the plurality of data records by synchronizing the transaction boundaries and combining said multiplicity of results.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the setting of transaction boundaries is performed based on the row count of the data records.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the setting of transaction boundaries is performed based on the time stamp of the data records.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the setting of transaction boundaries is performed based on the result of a previous data transformation.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the setting of transaction boundaries is performed based on a user-defined logic, wherein the user-defined logic is one or more rules defined by a user.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the user-defined logic is on a real-time basis.
7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5, wherein the one or more rules ~~comprise~~ are implemented in one or more tables in a database.
8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5, wherein the one or more rules comprise one or more statements defining relationships and actions in a suitable programming language.
9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the suitable programming language is one of Generation III Languages (3GL), Generation IV Languages (4GL), and Generation V (5GL) Languages.
10. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the suitable programming language is an expert system tool.
11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said processing comprises at least one of insert, update, delete, aggregation, rank, sort, sequence, and join.
12. (Currently Amended) A method for performing a series of transformations on a plurality of data records, wherein said series of transformations initiate at a source and conclude at a target, said method comprises:

setting transaction boundaries among said plurality of data records at said source thereby
dividing the plurality of data records into one or more data sets;

propagating the transaction boundaries through the series of transformations from the source
to the target;

performing said series of transformations based on the one or more data sets thereby
producing a multiplicity of results from said series of ~~set-based~~ transformations; and

completing the series of transformations by synchronizing the transaction boundaries and combining said multiplicity of results.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein the setting of transaction boundaries is performed based on the row count of the data records.

14. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein the setting of transaction boundaries is performed based on the time stamp of the data records.

15. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein the setting of transaction boundaries is performed based on the result of a previous data transformation.

16. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein the setting of transaction boundaries is performed based on a user-defined logic, wherein the user-defined logic is one or more rules defined by a user.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the user-defined logic is on a real-time basis.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16, wherein the one or more rules ~~comprise~~ are implemented in one or more tables in a database.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16, wherein the one or more rules comprise one or more statements defining relationships and actions in a suitable programming language.

20. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the suitable programming language is one of Generation III Languages (3GL), Generation IV Languages (4GL), and Generation V Languages (5GL).

21. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the suitable programming language is an expert system tool.

22. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein the propagating comprises setting and maintaining one or more transaction queues capable of defining the boundaries of the data sets.

23. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein the transaction queues comprise one or more tables in a database.

24. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein said transaction queues are maintained in a computer memory.

25. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein said series of transformations comprise at least one of insert, update, delete, aggregation, rank, sort, sequence, and join.

26. (Currently Amended) A system for processing a plurality of data records, comprising:

means for setting transaction boundaries among said plurality of data records thereby dividing the plurality of data records into one or more data sets;

means for processing via a database transformation each of said one or more data sets thereby producing a multiplicity of results from the one or more data sets; and

means for synchronizing the transaction boundaries and combining said multiplicity of results thereby completing said processing.

27. (Original) The system of claim 26, wherein the means for setting transaction boundaries defines the transaction boundaries based on the row count of the data records.

28. (Original) The system of claim 26, wherein the means for setting transaction boundaries defines the transaction boundaries based on the time stamp of the data records.

29. (Original) The system of claim 26, wherein the means for setting transaction boundaries defines the transaction boundaries based on the result of a previous data transformation.
30. (Original) The system of claim 26, the means for setting transaction boundaries comprises defines the transaction boundaries based on a user-defined logic, wherein the user-defined logic is one or more rules defined by a user.
31. (Original) The system of claim 30, wherein the user-defined logic is on a real-time basis.
32. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 30, wherein the one or more rules ~~comprise~~ are implemented in one or more tables in a database.
33. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 30, wherein the one or more rules comprise one or more statements defining relationships and actions in a suitable programming language.
34. (Original) The system of claim 33, wherein the suitable programming language is one of Generation III Languages (3GL), Generation IV Languages (4GL), and Generation V Languages (5GL).
35. (Original) The system of claim 33, wherein the suitable programming language is an expert system tool.
36. (Original) The system of claim 26, wherein said processing comprises at least one of insert, update, delete, aggregation, rank, sort, sequence, and join.
37. (Currently Amended) A system for performing a series of transformations on a plurality of data records, wherein said series of transformations initiate at a source and conclude at a target, said system comprises:

means for setting transaction boundaries among said plurality of data records at the source
thereby dividing the plurality of data records into one or more data sets;

means for propagating the transaction boundaries through the series of transformations from
the source to the target;

means for performing said series of transformations based on the one or more data sets
thereby producing a multiplicity of results from said series of ~~set-based~~ transformations; and

means for synchronizing the transaction boundaries and combining the multiplicity of results
thereby completing the series of transformations.

38. (Original) The system of claim 37, wherein the means for setting transaction boundaries defines the transaction boundaries based on the row count of the data records.

39. (Original) The system of claim 37, wherein the means for setting transaction boundaries defines the transaction boundaries based on the time stamp of the data records.

40. (Original) The system of claim 37, wherein the means for setting transaction boundaries defines the transaction boundaries based on the result of a previous data transformation.

41. (Original) The system of claim 38, the means for setting transaction boundaries defines the transaction boundaries based on a user-defined logic, wherein the user-defined logic is one or more rules defined by a user.

42. (Original) The system of claim 41, wherein the user-defined logic is on a real-time basis.

43. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 41, wherein the one or more rules ~~comprise~~ are implemented in one or more tables in a database.

44. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 41, wherein the one or more rules comprise one or more statements defining relationships and actions in a suitable programming language.
45. (Original) The system of claim 44, wherein the suitable programming language is one of Generation III Languages (3GL), Generation IV Languages (4GL), and Generation V Languages (5GL).
46. (Original) The system of claim 44, wherein the suitable programming language is an expert system tool.
47. (Original) The system of claim 37, wherein the means for propagating the transaction boundaries comprises setting and maintaining one or more transaction queues capable of defining the boundaries of the data sets.
48. (Original) The system of claim 47, wherein said transaction queues comprise one or more tables in a database.
49. (Original) The system of claim 47, wherein said transaction queues are maintained in a computer memory.
50. (Original) The system of claim 37, wherein said series of transformations comprise at least one of insert, update, delete, aggregation, rank, sort, sequence, and join.
51. (Canceled)
52. (Canceled)
53. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium having recorded thereon program instructions which when processed by a computer are capable of executing a method for processing a plurality of data records, said method comprising:

setting transaction boundaries among said plurality of data records thereby dividing the plurality of data records into one or more data sets;

processing via a database transformation each of said one or more data sets thereby producing a multiplicity of results from the one or more data sets; and

completing the processing of said plurality by synchronizing the transaction boundaries and combining said multiplicity of results.

54. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium having recorded thereon program instructions which when processed by a computer are capable of executing a method for performing a series of transformations on a plurality of data records, said method comprising:

setting transaction boundaries among said plurality of data records thereby dividing the plurality of data records into one or more data sets;

propagating the transaction boundaries through said series of transformations;

performing said series of transformations based on the one or more data sets thereby producing a multiplicity of results from said series of ~~set-based~~ transformations; and

completing the series of transformations by synchronizing the transaction boundaries and combining said multiplicity of results.